

Maintain OPSEC on the Internet

Remember the importance of operations security (OPSEC).

OPSEC can be defined as “the process of denying to potential adversaries information about capabilities or intentions by identifying, controlling and protecting generally unclassified evidence of the planning and execution of sensitive activities.”

The careless posting, discussion or e-mail of sensitive or classified information in the unclassified Internet medium could pose a threat to Navy and Marine Corps operations and personnel.

Simply put: Loose lips sink ships.

Be conscious of what you put in an e-mail and of who it's going to. You may assume that everybody is cleared and everybody has a “need to know,” even if it's unclassified. But once that e-mail leaves, it can be forwarded to thousands of different locations without your knowledge.

If you aren't sure whether something can be construed as “classified,” then don't send it through e-mail.

The same vigilance should be applied to other forms of communication as well.

Don't discuss passwords over an unclassified phone. If a system administrator gives someone a new password, that should be done over a secure means — by a secure fax or secure voice line.

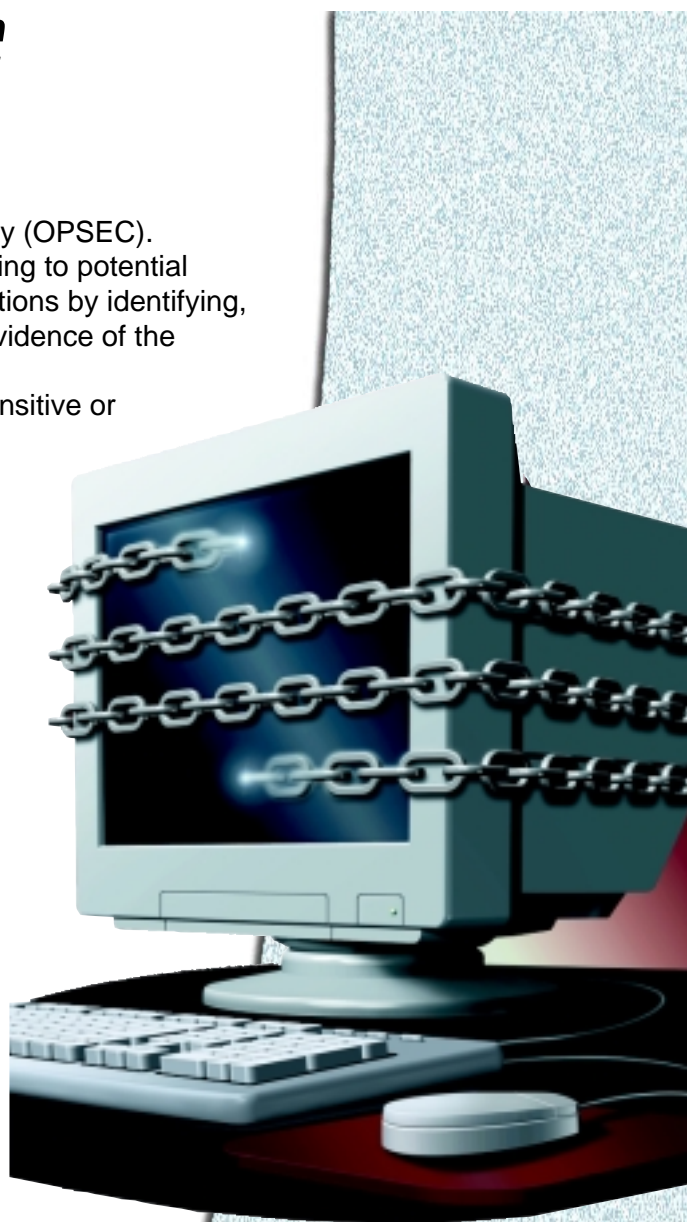
Failure to use established precautions and procedures can also be an inroad for adversaries looking to collect information.

Always ensure your anti-virus software is up to date at home, especially if you bring files from home in to work.

Use “strong” passwords, which are a combination of upper and lowercase letters, numerals and special characters.

The bottom line is that anything regarding Navy operations, facilities and personnel should be considered with OPSEC in mind.

For more facts about information security go to
www.navysecurity.navy.mil.



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